

# Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity Annual Report 2020



*Keep climbing that mountain*



Aitkin County  
**Habitat**  
for Humanity®

A Habitat homeowner is proud of her new bedroom and donated quilts.

# **Words from your director Ann Schwartz**

## **Keep climbing that mountain**



Reflecting on 2020, trying to build a new home in a pandemic is met with challenges. It started when Habitat International closed down all building sites. Longtime volunteers pulled back and new ones started but didn't stay due to fear of catching COVID-19. Prices are up and there is a materials shortage.

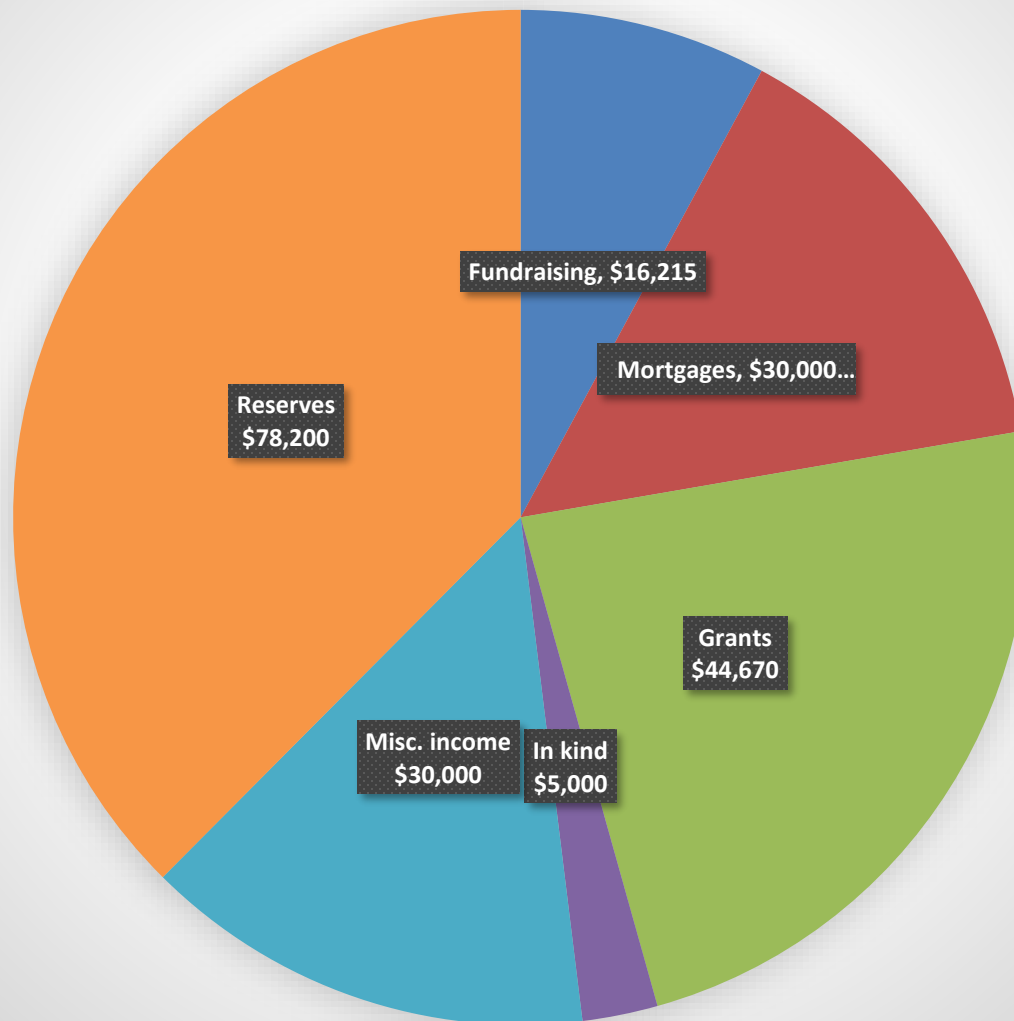
I know this: we cannot move forward without changing. To survive, we must adapt as humans and organizations. We can't continue to do things as we have always done them in this new world.

Heartbreakingly, we have to say goodbye to some loyal folks who can't or won't accept new ways of doing things. Times of change are like a huge flour sifter. As we sift, some crumbs come through the mesh and other gets stuck in the holes.

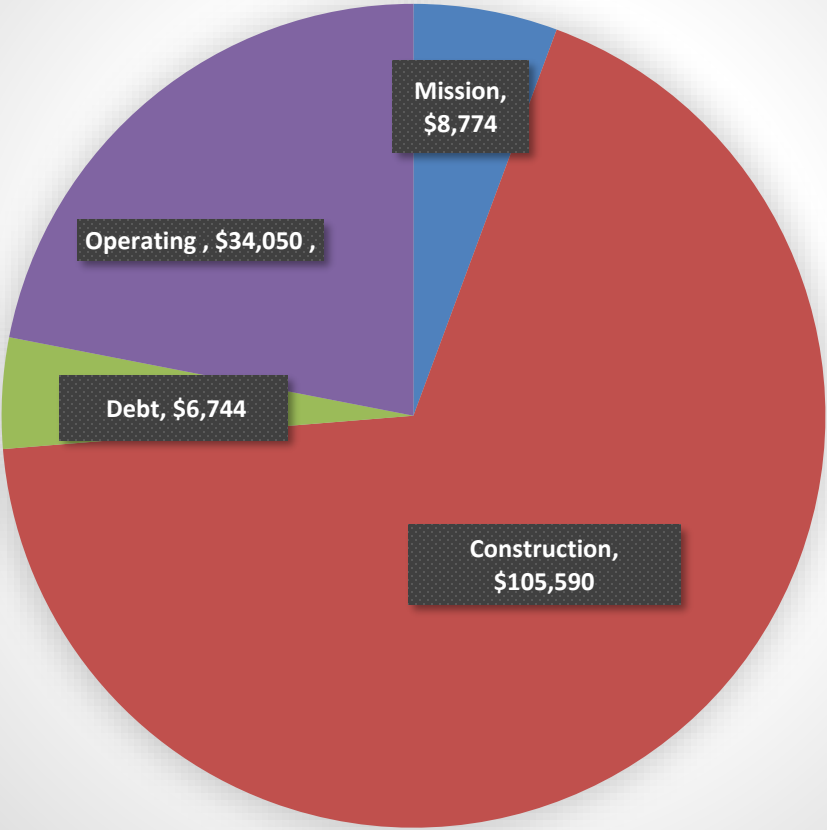
Thankfulness comes in the little miracles that have underscored this year. A new project manager came forward with an idea that will let us build a new home and complete it by the spring of 2021. New volunteers and a great partner family are showing up with bells on. The board of directors is the most supportive it has ever been. Financially, donations still come in and the pandemic has created new sources of funding.

With the support of our community, board, volunteers, donors, families and local entities, we climb that mountain. Yes, we will slip and fall hard. Yes, rocks will tumble down. Yes, we are fearful of what awaits at the top. We move ahead in what feels like a new century, post-pandemic – afraid, changed, scarred and limping—but filled with hope and determination. We stand on this, from Psalm 72: “The mountains will bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness. He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy.”

**Income 2020    \$208,285**



**Expenses 2020    \$152,128**







## Your castoffs help build homes

Recycle your cast-off appliances and furniture with Habitat for Humanity. We are accepting used appliances and furniture that are in excellent condition, along with new fixtures and building material. Also, cars, boats and sporting goods. If you can get it to our garage in Aitkin, you'll avoid landfill charges and your item will go to someone who truly needs it. You can also take a tax write-off for your donation. Remember us when cleaning. We have raised thousands of dollars with this program.

Please, no used toilets,  
old entertainment centers, TVs,  
hide-a-beds or used  
dishwashers or water heaters







## **Building again** **on the avenue**

**We are thrilled to announce that Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity is building once again on Minnesota Avenue South in Aitkin. This home is just south of the one we built in 2018. Kara**

**Anderson and her two children are the partner family. Donations and volunteers are needed.**

# 2020 donations

## **Grants received**

Medtronic foundation  
Enbridge Energy  
Mille Lacs Energy  
Duluth Diocese  
Aitkin County Tourism  
Habitat International Covid Mortgage Relief  
Thrivent Mortgage Relief  
Covid-19 Housing Assistance  
Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union  
Aitkin County CARES Act  
Lake County Power  
Mille Lacs Band

## **Churches**

Glen Community Church  
McGregor United Methodist Women

## **Individuals**

Bernie and Bea Roscoe  
Marcia Hyytinen  
Joyce and Dawn Schultz  
Linda Augustson  
Robert and Janet Haarman  
Jerry and Edna baker

Marge Muscatello  
Steve Hassl Robin Keyworth  
Ginny Smith  
Nick and Judy Priadka  
Faye Mattison  
David Scott  
Ann Kirk  
Robert and Jan Kolodji  
Joe and Kathy Sydnes  
Lynn Foote  
Gail Hoffman  
Nicole and Curt Navratil  
Katrina Pierson  
Gordon and Jean Prickett  
Kara Anderson  
Kathy Robb  
Sue Grandquist  
Bruce Beier  
Deanna Mattson  
James Nelson  
Jon Slock  
Rae Zahn  
Anonymous  
Debby Layer

Frank Simon  
Pat Wolleat and friends

## **Civic Organizations**

McGregor Lions  
Aitkin Women of Today  
Art for Others Auction

## **Silent Auction Items**

Lynn Foote  
Terry Stein  
Roxy Wigton  
Born Again Woods  
Ann Schwartz  
Cass Allers  
Kim Cameron  
Kathy Robb  
Sarah Morris  
Marlin Danielson  
My Pillow  
Marie Bendigo  
All Through the House  
Erich Ess  
Aitkin County Historical Society  
Cheryl and Marlin Danielson



## **Individuals**

Hulda and Glen Chambers  
Dorothy Dotzler Synchrony  
Jerrold and Julie Nelson  
Cheryl and Marlin Danielson  
Kathy Docken  
David and Pam Oberfeld  
Allen and Susan Clark Harris  
Bill and Barb Matalamaki  
James Ravis  
Eileen and Barry Foss  
Kelly Sparks  
Carol Fagen  
Andrew Priadka

## **In Kind**

Wausau Homes  
John Baker  
Wayne Bayerle  
Ed Kirk  
Phil Tange  
Everyone who worked on the house  
Ann Schwartz  
Roxy Wigton  
Cass Allers  
Alex Schwartz  
MidWest Machinery  
Lloyd  
Jim Frank

Morris and Morris  
Board of directors  
Local media

## **Other income**

PPP Paycheck  
Protection Loan  
SBA Small Business  
Loan



Our partner family for the new build: Damon, Kara and Adriana.