



St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity®

A QUARTERLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023 • ISSUE 5 • VOLUME 1



Community supporters and events help make our work happen!

We're proud to be this year's benefactors of Royal Credit Union Foundation's M.A.D. Trivia, November 2.

M.A.D. (Making a Difference) Trivia event is an evening filled with fabulous food, fun swag, and engaging trivia. Grab a friend or create a trivia team and head to 45th Parallel Distillery in New Richmond November 2.

Doors Open at 4:30 p.m., games begin at 5:30pm. Individual tickets are \$35 or save by registering a team of eight for \$250. At the event, individual registrants and smaller groups will be paired with others at their table to create a team. All participants will receive a meal, event swag and the chance to win fun prizes and bragging rights. Plus help us help more deserving families own that homeownership feeling! Registration is online here:

<https://www.rcu.org/about-royal/community/mad-trivia>



749 Ryan Drive, Huson, WI 715-350-8575 scvhabitat.org

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Building on our programs!

New builds aren't the only thing we do, although we're doing that too. This past month, we completed work on eight Rock the Block projects. But first we started work on an A Brush With Kindness that was long overdue. Diane's home in River Falls was due to be repaired in 2018. So we got things back on track and know that the snow won't find a way in this winter. (left corner photo)



Speaking of drafts, Andersen Windows & Doors is helping Pearl by replacing her 1930's era windows. It's part of our Aging in Place program. That means no need for plastic wrap to help Pearl stay warm this year. (bottom right photo)

Meanwhile in Ellsworth, we're just getting started with work that will create new housing on 4 lots down the block from the Middle School. But first, utilities needed to be pulled to the curb! Thanks to Village of Ellsworth, Ogden Engineering and Bettendorf Excavating for the heavy lift! (top photo) We'll be looking for volunteers really soon!

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remember your first home?

help deserving families own that feeling.

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Notes from Kristie Executive Director

This week is the 3rd annual Construction Inclusion Week, exploring the intersection between the construction industry's safety practices and diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB).

The goal is to send everyone home feeling safe and included at the end of the day. Equity is one part of our mission, so it makes sense to also consider DEIB in the physical work we do as well.

We've got some new faces here and have met some new volunteers in the past few months as well. Getting a chance to learn more about each other and our unique needs, are part of our vision as a diverse board and staff.

As we head toward the final months of 2023, we join our nonprofit partners in asking you to support our work. We know that workforce housing in our communities is in crisis. Inventory in St. Croix County was down almost 15% in September over the year before and the median sales price was \$360k. We are supported by tremendous businesses who give time, discount labor, and sponsor special builds and by foundations, who share our vision that everyone deserves a safe place to call home. I hope you will join us as a volunteer on our builds. And support our work with a donation to make the work we do possible. You can click on the link above or visit <https://scvhabitat.org/donate>

Yours in our shared vision, *Kristie*



Welcoming Alex Richert

Meet our new Crew Lead at Habitat. Alex Richert has more than five years of construction management experience at Oevering Homes and Jwood Sports Flooring. Upon completing his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, he relocated to Cottage Grove for one year and eventually moved to River Falls with his wife Jordan, where they have now resided the past three years. During the summer months, Alex likes to spend his time out at the golf course, where he has dedicated far too much time trying to improve! He and his wife also enjoy tackling side projects such as building and refinishing furniture. One of Alex's favorite tools in his very FULL garage is his cordless table saw. The combination of power, noise levels, and convenience makes the tool a must-have for his household projects. He looks forward to making a positive impact at Habitat and is excited for future challenges in his career.



Alex in Portstewart, Londonderry, Northern Ireland (Sept. 2023)

Volunteer updates!



See you summer....

We said goodbye to summer with a BANG! August saw the completion of construction at 1135 Rich River Way in New Richmond. Over the 9-month build period, a total of 314 volunteers put in 4,266 hours and a whole lot of love to build the Koskie home. Just a few of the many AMAZING local organizations that volunteered their time and talent to this home include: Krumm Exteriors, Valley Companies, First Presbyterian Church of Hudson, Sourcing Solutions/River Ridge Homes, Thrivent, RCU, and First State Bank and Trust.

Once that home was wrapped up, we moved right into our next project: Rock the Block - Elevate Ellsworth! From September 29 through

October 1, we had 87 volunteers spend almost 400 hours helping to revitalize and uplift multiple homes around Ellsworth, undertaking exterior work that included yard clean up, siding repair, porch repair, and painting. Although the weather threw us a curveball in the form of lots of rain, the enthusiasm our volunteers had for helping the community wasn't dampened at all!

Organizations that deserve a special shout-out for their volunteer involvement include Andersen Windows & Doors, Kraus-Anderson, WESTconsin Credit Union, Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Beldenville, the Ellsworth High School Dance Team, and the Ellsworth High School FFA. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated as a volunteer on both of these projects for making it possible to continue our mission of providing safe, decent, affordable homes for everyone!

We'll be back to building soon - stay tuned for upcoming volunteer opportunities on our next home build in Ellsworth! Some special build events to look forward to are our Women Build Week (April 16-20) and Pride Build (June 20-22). Check out our website (scvhhabitat.org/volunteer), and follow us on Facebook (@scvhfh) and Instagram (@StCroixValleyHabitat) for announcements regarding volunteer sign-ups!

Email us @ community.outreach@scvhhabitat.org if you would like to help!



This is where thrifting magic happens...

Featured in the picture above was a group of volunteers from Andersen Windows & Doors who came from Bayport, Mankato and Utah to help! Thanks guys!

Why shop our ReStore?

We sell a constantly changing inventory of diverse, high-quality merchandise at a fraction of the retail price, while diverting reusable household items and building materials from area landfills.

With a small retail shop in our Habitat affiliate building, we are able to help raise funds to support our affiliate's mission to support affordable housing efforts in Pierce & St. Croix Counties.

Sales of donated items help us partner with local families here in Pierce and St. Croix Counties to build, rehabilitate and repair safe and affordable homes – a good deal for you, our communities and the environment.

We could use your help! Volunteer at the ReStore on Saturdays!

Saturdays are our biggest days and we always love some extra hands to help with intake and organizing!

If you need extra volunteer hours for school or work projects, we'd love to welcome you in. Even if Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday work better for you! Our store is open from 11-3pm. Email Jessie at community.outreach@scvhabitat.org to get started! And thank you!

We welcome your donations!

Do you have new or gently loved furniture, tools, hardware, or building materials you would like to see reused? Call ahead/or email to pre-approve donations please! 715-318-9122 or ReStore@scvhabitat.org

In-Store Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 3pm:
749 Ryan Drive, Hudson, WI 54016

*We're always open online at scvhabitat.org/restore



Building strength, stability and self-reliance through safe shelter

St. Croix Valley Habitat needs funding to help solve the housing crisis

Sustainable, environmentally responsible housing that is affordable for our communities in Western Wisconsin is critical. We are completely funded through donations. Please consider an end-of-the-year gift to help more families change the future for their kids and their kids through safe, affordable shelter.

Your Donation Makes A Difference

In August, thanks to you, we turned over the keys to a home for a deserving, hard-working family of 5, who now pays a mortgage and is building generational wealth. We want to do more. Your donation supports safe and affordable housing for people in Pierce & St. Croix Counties. **Please share a financial gift of any amount by scanning the QR code or visiting our website at scvhabitat.org/donate**



More Easy to Give Opportunities

Cars For Homes

DONATING YOUR CAR, BOAT, MOTORHOME/CYCLE IS A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT OUR WORK.

Donate your vehicle in three easy steps:

- Call 1-877-277-4344.
- Provide your vehicle information and contact information.
- Schedule your car to be picked up.

Proceeds from the sale of your donated vehicle will help Habitat families build strength, stability and self-reliance in our communities.

Plus, it's fast and easy to do, and you may qualify for a tax deduction. Be sure to specify St. Croix Valley Habitat as your recipient.

Direct your Dollars



Shop with purpose. SpartanNash stores, like Family Fresh in River Falls, partner with communities. Through the Direct Your Dollars program, St. Croix Valley Habitat can earn \$1,000 simply by collecting \$150,000 in eligible receipts from participating SpartanNash-owned retail stores and fuel centers.

Receipts can be mailed or brought to: St. Croix Valley Habitat, 749 Ryan Drive, Hudson, WI 54016.



Save the Dates Please...



- November 2: M.A.D. Trivia, New Richmond
- March 23, 2024: 3rd Annual Gala, Tattersall, River Falls
- April 16-20, 2024: Women Build, Ellsworth
- June 20 -22, 2024: Pride Build, Ellsworth
- July 14, 2024: Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, Hudson