



We build strength, stability, self-reliance and shelter.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity Launches Critical Home Repair Program to Keep Families Safe at Home

New initiative helps local homeowners address urgent repairs, improve accessibility, and preserve affordable housing.

Friday, May 29, 2026- (Hudson, WI) – St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity is proud to announce the launch of its new Critical Home Repair Program, an initiative designed to help low-income homeowners address urgent home repair needs that impact health, safety, accessibility, and housing stability.

A recent Forbes article noted nearly 70% of U.S. homes are more than two decades old, resulting in a need for more frequent and costly repairs. The program will help qualified homeowners with essential repairs including accessibility modifications, minor plumbing issues and electrical repairs, weatherization, and other improvements that help preserve safe and affordable housing throughout Pierce and St. Croix Counties in Western Wisconsin.

"Our mission has always been about building stability for our neighbors," said Kristie Smith, Executive Director. "This program allows us to support families who already own their homes but are struggling to keep up with critical repairs. Through volunteer support, community partnerships, and donor contributions, St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity aims to expand its impact and meet the growing need for affordable home preservation services across the region."

The Critical Home Repair Program is intended to serve homeowners who meet SCVHFH income requirements of between 40-80% of Area Median Income as set by U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Repairs will focus on projects that improve safety, accessibility, and livability while helping homeowners avoid displacement. Projects are limited to a materials budget of up to \$3,300, which is free to the homeowner. Labor is supported by SCVHFH Construction team and key volunteers and is also at no cost.

Funding support for the program is provided by Andersen Corporate Foundation. "Safe, stable housing provides the foundation for people to thrive, and critical home repairs help reduce housing costs and keep people in our community in their homes," said Eliza Chlebeck, vice president of the Andersen Corporate Foundation. "This investment furthers our longstanding commitment to helping to our neighbors across the St. Croix Valley achieve and maintain homeownership."

Eligible homeowners can apply beginning June 1, 2026. The first repair projects will begin in late July and will continue every other month. Additional information about eligibility requirements, service areas, applications and volunteer opportunities can be found at <https://scvhabitat.org/critical-repair-program>

Community members, contractors, sponsors, and volunteers are encouraged to support the program through donations, skilled labor, and advocacy. Contact the Critical Home Repair program team at info@scvhabitat.org.

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About St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity

St. Croix Valley Habitat for Humanity helps families with safe, affordable housing. In 1996, community members in River Falls, WI and surrounding communities recognized the critical need to bring people together to build housing, communities and hope and founded the local, nonprofit Habitat affiliate. In its tenure, SCV Habitat for Humanity has built nearly 90 homes and helped hundreds of families in Pierce and St. Croix Counties. Visit scvhabitat.org for homeowner and volunteer information and to support the mission to help families on the path to generational wealth.

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