

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Erin Rank
President & CEO, HFH GLA

In the past few months, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) celebrated several milestones and achievements. From being able to rejoice in our first HFH GLA homeowner fully paying off her mortgage ahead of schedule, to seeing our youth volunteers carry on Habitat's mission beyond their local community, it is amazing to see the great strides that have been made in the last 22 years.

HFH GLA is committed to helping more families in a strategic way by not only creating new affordable housing opportunities, but also ensuring that the communities we serve continue to be strong and vibrant. We have served more families this year than ever before and we thank each of our partners and supporters for donating, volunteering and advocating on behalf of our mission. All of you have made a significant difference in the life of someone in need and we look forward to building more hope, lives and communities with your continued support!

LONG BEACH HOME DEDICATION

In July, HFH GLA sponsors, staff, volunteers and friends gathered to celebrate six families and individuals who have turned their dreams into a reality by becoming homeowners! It was a wonderful afternoon not only for the homeowners but the community as a whole. HFH GLA and the city of Long Beach have a longstanding partnership, as well as a common goal of providing decent, sustainable and affordable housing while improving and strengthening neighborhoods.

"Each home dedication is a milestone and to be able to have celebrated six in one afternoon is truly a blessing," said Erin Rank, President & CEO of HFH GLA. "This accomplishment would not have been possible without our partnership with the city of Long Beach, the generosity of our sponsors and volunteers and the dedication of our partner homeowners."

In addition, Councilmember Steven Neal and several organizations were recognized for their contributions, specifically Lowe's and Women in Non-Traditional Employment Roles, Inc. The celebration was a true testament to HFH GLA's mission and a beautiful representation of why we do what we do!

Congratulations



TO OUR NEW HOMEOWNERS

The Avalos Family
The Cisneros Family
The Espinosa Family
The Jones Family
The Li Family
The Ray Family



"OWNING MY OWN
H-O-M-E
MEANS SECURITY
FOR MY FAMILY &
WILL HELP SHOW
MY CHILDREN
THAT ANYTHING
IS POSSIBLE."

-Farra Ray, HFH GLA Partner Homeowner

HFH GLA inside

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS

As Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) starts its' new fiscal year, Board of Directors and senior staff members gathered to plan and discuss the strategic goals for the organization. Erin Rank had the honor of welcoming new board member, Dan Burgner of Caruso Affiliated and introducing Tom Clarke as HFH GLA's new Chairman of the Board.



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GIVING TOMORROW IS AS IMPORTANT AS GIVING TODAY

Annual gifts to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) allow us to provide an opportunity to hardworking individuals and families who seek homeownership to improve their quality of life. We are equally focused on changing lives far into the future as well as filling an immediate need. That's what makes, *Giving Tomorrow* so important.

At HFH GLA you can create a legacy and know that your gifts will have a special place securing our mission that makes affordable homeownership possible. In the months ahead we will provide information in this newsletter and on our website about legacy planning that we hope you will find personally useful.

You may be interested in knowing that donors who include HFH GLA in their estate plans are recognized in our Legacy Society.

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer M. Wise, Vice President of Resource Development, HFH GLA
call: (424)246-3627 email: jwise@habitatla.org.

AMERICORPS COMES TO TOWN



In May, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) hosted more than 75 AmeriCorps members for Habitat for Humanity International's annual AmeriCorps Build-A-Thon! HFH GLA was one of four affiliates chosen to engage AmeriCorps members and alumni from 36 states. The event helped highlight local community needs for affordable housing and the members' service with Habitat. This year's Build-A-Thon also helped HFH GLA meet its goals with regards to the second phase of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2). "Our AmeriCorps members continually impress us with their dedication to our mission," says Erin Rank, President & CEO of HFH GLA. "Those who joined us in Los Angeles for this year's Build-A-Thon had their work cut out for them!"

Indeed the work was challenging – from drywall to plumbing, landscaping to painting, members worked tirelessly towards completing homes for future partner homeowners. "We are incredibly grateful for the service of these dedicated AmeriCorps members and their commitment to helping hardworking low-income families in need of affordable housing," said Patrick Corvington, Habitat for Humanity International's Senior Vice President of Volunteer and Institutional Engagement. "Habitat's Build-A-Thon allows us to showcase the pivotal role AmeriCorps members play in our ability to serve communities across the U.S." Thank you to all of the event volunteers, partner homeowners, volunteer crew leaders, and HFH GLA staff who helped make this event so extraordinary!

PARTNER HOMEOWNER HIGHLIGHTS

The first PARTNER HOMEOWNER TO PAY OFF HER MORTGAGE

TOSHIA WILLIAMS

HFH GLA has reached a major milestone - as of July 2012, Toshia Williams is our first HFH GLA partner homeowner to pay off her own mortgage. In 1992, Toshia applied for a Habitat home



after her supervisor at work told her that they would be building in Compton, near her workplace. Born and raised in Compton, Toshia jumped at the opportunity to become a homeowner and raise

her own family in a city she called home. Living in substandard conditions with two young children, Toshia dreamed of giving her family a safe and stable environment to thrive. Once approved for a home, Toshia realized the \$490 mortgage payment was less than her current rent so she was able to stay on track and pay off her 20 year mortgage a few months early. Toshia's father, grandmother, cousins, aunts and uncles quickly embraced this opportunity and became a part of the Habitat family, contributing towards her 500 hours of sweat equity. In addition, three other family members have since become Habitat partner homeowners in Compton and Lynwood with HFH GLA.

Toshia's oldest daughter Theresa, 26, was 6 when the family moved into their Habitat home and is currently a student at Cal State Long Beach, studying English and getting her teaching credentials. At their home dedication 21 years ago, Theresa remembers receiving a dictionary from a Habitat staff member and reading it cover to cover, eventually developing a love for books. Theresa has exciting news herself this year, she recently got engaged to her high school sweetheart. Toshia's 24 year old son Johnny, was only 4 when the family moved into their home and is now a security guard with FedEx at LAX and father to 2 year old Ja'neia. Toshia's 14 year old daughter, Tracy is in the 10th grade at a Catholic high school and has enjoyed living in their Habitat home her entire life.

Toshia says, "Owning a home has been such a blessing. I am so grateful and thankful to my parents and my former boss, Mr. Sanders for encouraging me to apply for a Habitat for Humanity house." She adds, "Always set a goal and try to achieve it no matter what, if you get side tracked, find a way to get back on track."



Meet AMANDA JORDAN AND HER 3 CHILDREN

Meet Amanda Jordan and her three children - 11-year-old Frederick and daughters Fa'Ness, 7, and Faith, 2. On Easter Sunday this past spring, the family of four moved into a home in the city of Lynwood. Amanda recently shared how becoming a homeowner has changed her life.

"The Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) has been such a blessing. My kids are much happier than before. And my neighbors were excited to meet me as a homeowner. Before our house was renovated, it sat abandoned with squatters living in it. Habitat came along with this wonderful program to help low-income families such as mine afford a home and make over a neighborhood. I thank God every chance I get for such a wonderful blessing and for meeting such wonderful people."

In addition to the excitement of becoming a partner homeowner, Amanda recently entered her daughters in the Yo Gabba Gabba! Children's Bedroom Makeover Contest. Yo Gabba Gabba! teamed up with HFH GLA and D-I-Y designer Holly Westhoff in an unprecedented collaboration to create the ultimate bedroom. After winning the contest, sponsored by Wildbrain Entertainment, with an essay on their "bedtime ritual", Fa'Ness and Faith received a one of kind, dream-come-true bedroom makeover - Yo Gabba Gabba style! Thanks to the Yo Gabba Gabba! team and Holly Westhoff for making more dreams come true!



volunteer HIGHLIGHT



Lolita Pizarro began volunteering with HFH GLA more than three years ago. As she was nearing retirement, she was looking to take classes on home improvements in the hopes of doing upkeep on her own home. Lolita found out about Habitat for Humanity and saw volunteering for HFH GLA as a "two-fold mission" – giving her time to a worthwhile organization while

learning a trade at the same time!

Lolita called our offices and the rest is history. Her commitment and dedication to volunteering is admirable and it's because of people like her, HFH GLA is able to continue our mission. While in the office, Lolita spends her time and energy with our Volunteer Services department, inputting volunteer data for the entire affiliate. After all her time here, she says her favorite moments are seeing the reaction of partner families during their home dedication ceremonies. "This memory is forever embedded in my heart and mind," says Lolita, "being a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity has opened my eyes to the many hours of behind-the-scenes support needed to provide a family with a solid ground for rebuilding their lives." We are so grateful to have Lolita Pizarro as part of our Habitat for Humanity family!

5 FUN FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT LOLITA:

1. Lolita is a retired civil servant after 45 years of service.
2. She loves to read about people and places.
3. Her favorite flower is the rose.
4. Lolita loves to travel - her most memorable moment was on a trip to Israel where she was baptized in the Jordan River.
5. Her neighbors refer to her as the "garage sale guru" because she organizes their bi-annual garage sales!

Come volunteer with us!

CONSTRUCTION · SERVE AS A SITE HOST
RESTORES · OFFICE & ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEES · SPECIAL EVENTS

There are many ways to give back - check out our Volunteer Opportunities on our website.

South Korea YOUTH UNITED TEAM



Story written by HFH GLA Youth United Chapter President, Jenny Sim

On June 11th-15th, nine Webb students, (Zoey Choi, Jeainny Kim, Thomas Kim, Taco Lee, Sam Nam, Chaewon Park, SangUk Park, Jenny Sim, and SuYeong Yang) participated in Habitat for Humanity's A Brush with Kindness project in Beobwon-eup, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea with the Paju-si affiliate. For quick background info, Beobwon-eup is a city north of Seoul with a lot of Korean and U.S. military bases for protection. The Paju-si affiliate covers most of the cities in Gyeonggi-do, and the city of Paju is located south of 38th Parallel and right next to the DMZ. Most Webb students had to commute nearly 2 hours each day on public transportation to get to the work site. This year we were planning on building a series of houses but the primary land donor bailed out last minute. Again, the Seoul affiliate (like last year) had more support and projects, but we thought it would be meaningless if we built a house in such a big city.

In addition to the nine Webb students, three international students and one post-graduate from Korea joined us. Our job was to renovate an entire house. Throughout the week, we dug 70 cm ditches, renovated the study/guestroom, rebuilt a port-a-potty like restroom (no toilet!!!), wallpapered the bedrooms and reinstalled the kitchen ceiling. We worked from 9 AM to 6 PM every day! Everyone got to use all the tools, from hammers and nails to using power tools like nail guns, electric saws and drills. Most people were new to Habitat, but they were AWESOME! Jeainny was the goddess of nail guns, Sam the god of wall papering and Sang was really really good at digging.

Throughout the week, Sam and Jamie (IIS) worked on the study/ guestroom renovation while Sang, Zoey, SuYeon, Thomas, Eunice Lee (KIS), Joseph (IIS) and Chaewon dug the ditch and connected the water purifier. Taco, Yoonji (post-graduate), Jeainny and I tore down the restroom and rebuilt it from scratch. When the ditch and restroom teams finished (day 3), Sam, Jamie, Sang, Chaewon, Eunice and I worked on dry walling the study/guestroom and wallpaper while the rest of the group worked on the kitchen and bedrooms. On June 14th, Seoul University Law School Habitat club joined us and helped us wallpaper the bedrooms.

Overall, the projects were all relatively difficult, especially for students who were new to Habitat. However, we were able to finish all the work that was assigned to us. Since we have been extremely active with the Habitat Korea, the HFH Korea Headquarters gave all Webb students a gift basket with a letter of appreciation, volunteer authentication, Habitat blanket, mug and notebooks. As always, this project would not have been possible if it wasn't for Webb and its support for Habitat for Humanity.

Visit our Flickr site at: <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjAKphCj>

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WE SERVE. WE HONOR. WE BUILD.



FOUNDATION Building Affordable Healthy Homes

On Thursday, September 6, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles and The Home Depot Foundation joined forces to assist 10 qualified veteran and military families in need of home repairs during The Home Depot Foundation's Celebration of Service. The campaign for service brought together volunteers who worked on 100 veterans' homes nationally, including 10 in the greater Los Angeles area.

Navy veteran Juan Singleton and his family were one of the HFH GLA partner homeowners. The Singletons received new windows, new fencing, exterior painting and a security door. "It's overwhelming - in a good way," Juan Singleton said. "We're very appreciative of them just for choosing us." Joe McFarland, the President of the Western Division of The Home Depot, was on hand with about 40 volunteers in orange T-shirts. In 2011, The Home Depot Foundation committed \$30 million over three years to nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the homes of economically disadvantaged veterans — a pledge that was surpassed nearly a year ahead of schedule. This year, the Foundation is committing an additional \$50 million over the next three years in an effort to ensure every veteran has a safe place to call home.



HOLLYWOOD'S SUMMER OF GIVING

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) loves our Hollywood partners and they have been very good to us this summer. In August, our friends at VH1 generously donated all the lumber from their Do Something Awards (www.dosomething.org/awards) set to our ReStore, contributing to HFH GLA's mission of sustainability through recycling and reuse. And in September, HFH GLA was once again a beneficiary and guest at the FOX Fall Eco Casino premier party, where FOX talent not only spun the wheel for their favorite charity, but created artwork that was auctioned off to further support our mission. We appreciate the continued support of the entertainment industry and look forward to working together to build hope, lives & communities across the greater Los Angeles area.

THRIVENT BUILDS



Lutheran congregations throughout the Los Angeles area joined forces in Lynwood earlier this year to break ground on their seventh Habitat home sponsored by Thrivent Financial. The multi-year, multi-million dollar partnership between Thrivent and Habitat for Humanity has raised \$160 million and built more than 1,600 affordable homes around the world. L.A. area Lutherans have built a single-family home every year for the past six years.

"Every year that we continue to partner with Thrivent Financial is a blessing," said Erin Rank, President & CEO of HFH GLA. "Thrivent's commitment to affordable housing is helping to uplift congregations, communities, and individuals right here in Los Angeles and around the world." Those interested in getting involved with this year's project in Lynwood should contact Faith Relations Manager Chris Untiet at chrisu@habitatla.org.

THE AUCTION BLOCK

Imagine spending the day as an L.A. Lakers ball boy. Or visiting the set of NCIS as a VIP. Or taking home a guitar signed by members of Linkin Park or Green Day. These are just a few of the opportunities available through Charity Buzz. HFH GLA has partnered with the online auction site to create opportunities for celebrity and sports fan bases to donate to our cause. Other experiences include ticket auctions to special events, memorabilia signed by famous athletes, passes to sit in on concert sound checks, and more.

Check out:
www.charitybuzz.com
FOR UPCOMING AUCTIONS TODAY!

EMPLOYEE GIVING

Does your employer offer an Employee Giving program? An Employee Giving program (also known as a Workplace Giving program) is a convenient way to make a difference in your community and in the lives of those that need your help. Because contributions are made through automatic payroll deductions, Employee Giving programs are one of the simplest, most cost-effective ways to support the organizations you trust. And, don't forget, your contributions are 100% tax-deductible.

ACCORDING TO A CONE SURVEY, 9 OUT OF 10 AMERICANS SAID IT IS IMPORTANT THAT BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT AND NONPROFITS COLLABORATE TO SOLVE PRESSING SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

If you participate in your employer's Employee Giving program, please consider designating Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles as your charity of choice. If you would like to know more about HFH GLA and employee giving programs, please contact Jennifer Wise at 424.246.3627. On behalf of the families that we serve, thank you!

CARS FOR HOMES

Donate your vehicle to help build homes!
Call 1-877-277-4344 or visit www.carsforhomes.org



MISSION STATEMENT:

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles builds and renovates homes in partnership with God and people everywhere with a goal of eliminating substandard housing by making decent, affordable housing a matter of conscience and action in our communities.

VALUES:

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles believes in the following values and strives to incorporate them in the work that we accomplish.

EFFICIENCY
faith-based
global perspective
INTEGRITY
INNOVATION
LEADERSHIP
partnership
SUSTAINABILITY

BECOME A HOMEOWNER TODAY

Habitat for Humanity has partnered with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) to stabilize neighborhoods that have been affected by abandoned and foreclosed properties. HFH GLA will acquire, rehabilitate and sell nearly 100 of these homes to low income buyers in partnership with the city of Long Beach, the city of Lynwood and the city of South Gate.

If you or someone you know aspires to be a homeowner, we want to hear from you. For more information about the eligibility requirements and the application process or other Habitat for Humanity Homeownership Programs, call Sylvia Bautista at 424.246.3645 or email sbautista@habitatla.org. Certain terms and conditions apply in order to be eligible for the program.



ReStore

Overhauling your home?

Let us haul away your couches, counters, cabinets and more!

The ReStores were established to provide a self-sustaining funding source for Habitat for Humanity and to provide local communities with low-cost building and home improvement materials. Call us with your donations today – we pick up items all over Los Angeles! To schedule a pick-up in your area please contact a Donations Coordinator at 866-SHOP-HFH (866-746-7434) to discuss your donation. All donations are tax-deductible.

LOCATIONS

Gardena ReStore
17700 S. Figueroa St.
Gardena CA 90248

Norwalk ReStore
11029 Alondra Blvd.
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www.shophabitat.org





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ADVOCATE

for our families in your own community.

There are various ways you can

DONATE

to HFH GLA! Your donations change lives - from a monetary gift to donating your car or donating household items to our ReStores - you can help eliminate substandard housing.

Pick up your hammers and join us as a

VOLUNTEER

on site today! No construction experience is required - just a smile and a willingness to help!

To become part of the change today
call or visit us:

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