

## The PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Erin Rank  
President & CEO, HFH GLA

The team at Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles (HFH GLA) is very proud of the many achievements that we have been able to reach in the last year with the help of our supporters. Not only was HFH GLA chosen as one of seven Affiliates of Distinction by Habitat for Humanity International but we also served 108 families in our 2012-2013 fiscal year, more families in one year than ever before in our affiliate's history.

It is with the support from individual, corporate and faith donors, to our great volunteers that we are able to continue building hope, lives and communities. I was recently reminded how inspiring HFH GLA's mission can be by a story from one of our Power Women Power Tools attendees, who told

us how her 6 year old daughter went home from our event to thank God for what Habitat was able to do for one of our partner homeowners (page 10). It was a wonderful message on how important our work can be even in the eyes of our youngest supporters.

## AFFILIATE of DISTINCTION

### Habitat for Humanity of Greater L.A. Named an Affiliate of Distinction

HFH GLA was recognized earlier this year as one of seven "Affiliates of Distinction" by Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI). HFHI established the program as a way to honor Habitat for Humanity affiliates that are meeting or exceeding best-practice standards.

"We are extremely honored to be acknowledged as one of the inaugural Affiliates of Distinction," said Erin Rank, President and CEO, HFH GLA. "This award belongs to all of the staff, board members and volunteers who carry out our work with passion and integrity every day. We applaud the work of Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the nation, and we are proud to be part of this ministry."

HFHI recognized HFH GLA's leadership in seven key areas: sustainable and green building, overall organizational leadership, community development, financial sustainability, alignment with Habitat for Humanity's strategic plan, effective use of technology for communication and support for Habitat's global mission.

"We are incredibly thankful for the extraordinary efforts and service of these first seven Affiliates of Distinction," said Jonathan Reckford, CEO, Habitat for Humanity International. "Their innovative thinking and commitment to decent, affordable housing helps many families control their long-term housing costs and contributes to the development of strong, sustainable communities."



*"Owning my  
own home  
provides my family  
with the  
stability & security  
we have always dreamed of."*

-Martha Peralta  
HFH GLA PARTNER HOMEOWNER

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...and much more!

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

HFH GLA's Board of Directors and senior leadership team met for a great day of strategic planning in July. To start the day, Erin Rank, HFH GLA President & CEO, welcomed four new board members: Ranjan Goswami of Delta Air Lines, Bill Blake of Zurich North America, Councilmember Mike Gipson of the City of Carson and John Manganiello of Bank of America Merrill Lynch. "We are thrilled and honored to have so many great leaders with a passion and commitment to the mission of Habitat." She also thanked Tom Clarke for his leadership as Chairman this past fiscal year and welcomed Gerry Bross as the new Chairman of the Board.



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## NATIONAL WOMEN BUILD WEEK



Holly Robinson Peete came out to build during National Women Build Week.

More than 10,000 women volunteered to build with Habitat for Humanity throughout the country as part of this year's National Women Build Week (NWBW). NWBW is an annual event sponsored by Lowe's that challenges women to spend a day helping build affordable housing in their local communities. In addition to sponsoring special events like NWBW, Lowe's underwrites the overall Women Build program and has contributed nearly \$40

million to Habitat for Humanity. Employees at Lowe's stores also conduct how-to clinics for our women volunteers. These clinics teach new construction skills that our volunteers can use to help us eliminate poverty housing.

Holly Robinson Peete served as the NWBW spokeswoman and we were thrilled to have her join us in renovating Roman Tesfaye's home in Long Beach, CA. Holly, Roman and her daughter, Helen, along with volunteers from local Lowe's stores started demo on the home's interior, built a new exterior fence and began painting the outside of the home.

Roman emigrated from Ethiopia and has been living in Los Angeles for the last 11 years. She works as a nursing assistant while Helen is following in her mother's footsteps and studying to be a nurse at California State University, Los Angeles.

All of the volunteers had a great time getting to know each other, celebrating service and empowering others to get involved through social media. Our HFH GLA twitter feed was almost as busy as our power tools and hammers!

## Farewell AMERICORPS

Our 2012/2013 AmeriCorps have completed their service to HFH GLA. AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps VISTA are national service organizations whose members play a very important role in helping to fulfill our mission. Thank you to our most recent class for helping us to build hope, lives and communities in Greater Los Angeles!



From left to right: Tyler Platt, Megan Wery, Kayla Schaefer, Caitlin Rose, Stephanie Ham, Kyle Shillington and Amanda Cusumano.

# Meet

**NANCY GAMBEE**  
LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBER



As a young woman, Nancy Gambie learned the value of giving back from her father. He would purchase homes in desperate need of repair at auction. He would then fix them up and rent or sell the renovated homes to families at affordable rates and prices. This enabled families to get ahead and often gave them a new lease on life. Nancy's father was an ethical business man and his business revitalized the community. HFH GLA's mission to provide affordable housing to low-income families is similar to the work her father was so passionate about.

Nancy and her deceased husband, Sumner Gambie, have been supporting HFH GLA from the beginning. Nancy and Sumner met while working for the Navy in Washington D.C. They dedicated their lives to helping poor and underserved people. Nancy has volunteered at food distribution centers and has also inspired her church to raise awareness for housing issues in San Pedro.

Nancy has included a bequest to HFH GLA in her estate plan. Nancy's gift will continue her family's tradition of helping others while furthering HFH GLA's ability to build hope, lives and communities. HFH GLA is grateful that Nancy's gift will ensure that families in Los Angeles have greater access to decent, sustainable and affordable housing.

HFH GLA encourages you to join Nancy and others who want to leave a lasting legacy in Greater Los Angeles. To learn more about the benefits of joining the Legacy Society please visit: [www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org).

# Meet

**ZALIKAH TEMPLETON**  
AND HER FAMILY



"Owning my own home means one thing to me - peace. I refuse to become another statistic," says Zalika Templeton, HFH GLA partner homeowner. Prior to moving into their HFH GLA home Zalika and her five children lived in a crowded two-bedroom, one-bathroom apartment in the city of Lynwood.

Zalika has served as a Los Angeles Unified School District special education teacher for more than 15 years. On weekends she volunteers at her church, as well as at a youth and family services organization as a mentor and cheer director. Zalika's sons, Manasseh, 12, and Zion, 7, love to play football while her daughters, Shoni, 16, Day, 14, and Zaire, 7, prefer rooting them on from the sidelines as cheerleaders! Zalika's oldest daughter, Shoni, also loves to sing and dance.

Zalika says: "Owning a home has meant the world to my family. We are able to go outside in our own backyard and barbeque, play games and do what families with yards do!"

HFH GLA staff has many estate planning resources available to you. If you have additional questions, or to request more information please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Wise, VP of Resource Development at (424) 246-3627 or via email at [jwise@habitatla.org](mailto:jwise@habitatla.org).

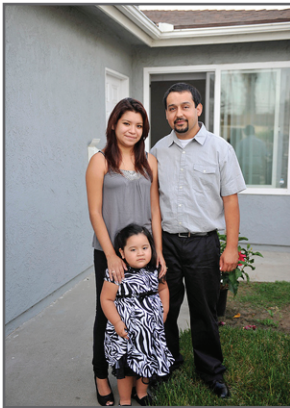
If you are interested in learning more about how you can support HFH GLA, receive an income tax deduction and fixed payments for life please visit: [www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org)

## Long Beach Home DEDICATION



On Saturday, August 24th, HFH GLA officially welcomed nine new partner homeowners to the City of Long Beach! Long Beach City Councilmembers Steven Neal and Al Austin, Ray Brewer from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and HFH GLA board members were on hand to celebrate the nine partner homeowners who put so much hard work into making their dreams of homeownership a reality. Appreciation goes to all of our community partners for supporting the building of these nine homes with generous financial contributions.

The nine homes that HFH GLA dedicated were built as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Through



NSP, HFH GLA has been able to help reinvigorate and revitalize some of Long Beach's most economically disadvantaged neighborhoods and those hit by the recent economic crisis.

Congratulations to the Ceja, Cordova, Figueroa, Leiva, Mark, Ochoa, Otis, Sanchez and Yi families on this milestone that will continue to impact lives for generations to come.

*Come volunteer with us!*

CONSTRUCTION · SERVE AS A SITE HOST  
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COMMITTEES · SPECIAL EVENTS

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

## 9<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL POWER WOMEN POWER TOOLS®



More than 200 power women including celebrities, entertainment industry professionals, corporate executives and event volunteers came out for HFH GLA's Power Women Power Tools build event on June 15th at Sony Pictures Studios. Donning the event's signature pink hardhats, the volunteers framed 120 walls for future Habitat for Humanity homes alongside partner homeowners. This year's celebrity volunteers included Tia Carrere, Kristina Guerrero, Shanola Hampton, Mya Harrison, Kate Linder, Missy Peregrin, Tom Shadyac and Alicia Witt.

The annual event began in 2005 and has engaged thousands of women from various sectors who have helped to build affordable homes and, most importantly, propel HFH GLA's mission forward.

Culver City Vice Mayor Meghan Sahli-Wells and the Honorable Jan Perry, former Los Angeles City Councilwoman for the 9th district and now interim general manager of the city's proposed new Economic Development Department, greeted volunteers. Two HFH GLA partner homeowners Gloria Alfaro and Zalika Templeton moved the crowd to tears with their stories.

Thank you to Lowe's, Union Bank, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Variety and all the rest of our generous sponsors for supporting this year's event and to all of the volunteers for making the 9th Annual Power Women Power Tools one to remember!

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# LYNWOOD

## *Home Dedication*

At the end of February, the achievements of nine hardworking partner homeowners were celebrated at our Lynwood Home Dedication! Home Dedications are a great way to highlight the importance of our work and we were thrilled to have sponsors, staff, volunteers, as well as friends like Congresswoman Janice Hahn and City of Lynwood Mayor Salvador Alatorre in attendance to witness nine dreams of homeownership come true.

All of the homes were rehabilitated in partnership with the City of Lynwood, partner homeowners and volunteers as part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Neighborhood Stabilization Program2 (NSP2). Through this program, HFH GLA is rehabilitating foreclosed and abandoned homes in order to provide affordable homeownership opportunities while also improving neighborhoods that we have invested in.



**Congratulations to the Delgado, Dumas, Henderson, Jordan, Miramontes, Moreno, Nitkiewicz, Peralta and Ramirez families on completing their sweat equity hours and moving into their beautiful new homes!**

## LA'S BEST



*HFH GLA's Youth Programs has partnered with LA's BEST to teach elementary school students how affordable housing can help build stronger communities!*

LA's Best stands for Los Angeles' Better Educated Students of

Tomorrow and was founded in 1988 by the L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley in response to the lack of supervision of children during the time period of 3-6pm. LA's BEST now serves 28,000 kids at 189 elementary schools that have low student test scores and are located in neighborhoods vulnerable to gangs, drugs and crime.

LA's BEST and HFH GLA's partnership began in March 2013 with the goal of increasing the youth community's awareness of the opportunities ahead of them in regards to HFH GLA, community service and homeownership. To date, HFH GLA has been to three LA's BEST sites and is looking forward to visiting many more throughout the 2013-2014 school year!

During these site visits students are engaged through HFH GLA fact-based guessing games and photos of children from various places where Habitat builds. These activities then lead to a discussion on the meaning and importance of home. The students always love to learn about other kids and it's amazing to see how much the students know about the world around them. HFH GLA is looking forward to encountering many more great, knowledgeable minds during future LA's BEST adventures!

## THE SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Speakers Bureau was formed to respond to requests for more information about Habitat for Humanity's mission and goals and to build awareness about the need for affordable housing. The Speakers Bureau is comprised of a broad group of individuals dedicated to delivering informative presentations to businesses and organizations throughout the Greater Los Angeles area.

Recently the Speakers Bureau had an opportunity to present to the 108th and Hoover Neighborhood Association in Los Angeles. Janice Chang represented HFH GLA at the meeting and provided residents of the community with information about our organization and our programs. Janice is a public policy and budget analyst with the City of Los Angeles and has a passion for public and community service. She began her involvement with Habitat for Humanity ten years ago as a student at UC Berkeley. Today, as a member of our Speakers Bureau, Janice uses her voice, instead of a hammer to help build hope, lives and communities.

Since its inception this spring, the Speakers Bureau has already made presentations to 15 different groups and nearly 200 people. *To find out how you can request a speaker for your organization, business, faith group or classroom, please visit our website or email [speakersbureau@habitatla.org](mailto:speakersbureau@habitatla.org).*

## HOME REPAIR → PROGRAM ←

HFH GLA's A Brush with Kindness and Critical Home Repair programs have recently been combined to fall under the overarching Home Repair Program (HRP). Through the HRP, HFH GLA is providing repairs and non-cosmetic improvements for low-income homeowners to alleviate health and safety issues in and around their home. Repairs are provided free of cost or with a deferred payment, depending on the scope and estimated costs of needed repairs.

As a disabled veteran homeowner, Mr. Sylvester Brooks had difficulty keeping up his home both financially and physically making him a perfect candidate for HRP. HFH GLA partnered with Mr. Brooks to provide kitchen and bathroom plumbing repairs and rebuild his wooden picket fence.

Mr. Brooks has lived in his Compton, California home for more than 57 years. He is retired after working as a manufacturing engineering planner for Rockwell International for 38 years. Before Rockwell, Mr. Brooks served in the United States Air Force. He spent the majority of his time in active enlistment and three years as an active reserve in the medic's dental department. By his third honorable discharge, Mr. Brooks had earned the rank of Staff Sergeant and held a WWII Victory Medal amongst his honors.

In the coming months, HFH GLA's goal is to partner with 25 more veteran households like Mr. Brooks', as well as 25 non-veteran households. Applying is easy! If you meet the eligibility requirements below, you can download an application at [www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org) or call 310-323-4663.



### Eligibility Requirements

- Must own a home within the HFH GLA service area.
- Household income must fall under specific guidelines.
- Home must be owner occupied and serve as primary residence of applicant(s).
- Home must be a single family residence, condominium/ townhome or mobile home. Multi-family residences (apartments, duplexes, etc.) are not eligible.
- Be willing to partner with HFH GLA by investing a minimum of 24 sweat equity hours.
- Homeowners must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Legal Resident.
- Veterans must provide proof of service discharge.

*For a complete list of eligibility requirements and repairs offered, visit us at [www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org)*

## PARTNERSHIP WITH RESTORE NEIGHBORHOODS LA

*Learn more about HFH GLA's green building practices at [habitatla.org](http://habitatla.org)*



Restore Neighborhoods LA, Inc. (RNLA) is an organization that shares in HFH GLA's goal to acquire, restore and build homes for low-income families. HFH GLA has partnered with RNLA as the contractor on three net-zero homes, which have been built with eco-friendly materials and technologies. In

addition, HFH GLA worked collaboratively with GRID Alternatives to ensure that each home received a 2.34 kW photovoltaic system that is projected to generate between 97% and 102% of each home's annual total energy use. In working with organizations like RNLA and GRID Alternatives, HFH GLA is happy to help provide more sustainable homeownership opportunities while learning about new, innovative ways to build.

## *—the—* AUCTION BLOCK



Our Hollywood for Habitat for Humanity (HFHFH) Charity Buzz auctions have helped propel the mission of HFH GLA as well as build and renovate more

sustainable and affordable Habitat homes. Our HFHFH auctions are fun, creative ways to fundraise and engage our entertainment partners and they also help to fund company build days for entertainment teams. With VIP auction items donated by our entertainment industry partners, actors/actresses, musicians and athletes we are able to engage individuals to become involved with HFH GLA who otherwise may not.

Auction items ranging from a "walk on" or "extra" roll on a television series, a sound check and meet and greet with a musical artist, a chance to build with your favorite athlete to walking the red carpet at a premiere and attending the after party have helped HFH GLA raise thousands of dollars this past fiscal year. Our auctions offer new opportunities for one-of-a-kind experiences nearly every month.

HFHFH is grateful to its partners and donors. If you would like to find out more on how you can become involved with our HFHFH auctions as a donor or partner or to see what new items are being offered visit [www.habitatla.org/HFHFH](http://www.habitatla.org/HFHFH) or email Jo-An Turman, Director of Entertainment Industry Partnerships at [jturman@habitatla.org](mailto:jturman@habitatla.org).

## INTERFAITH OUTREACH DINNER



On May 1st, the night before the National Day of Prayer, faith leaders representing seven different faith traditions and 18 different congregations gathered at the Baha'i Center in Los Angeles for the inaugural Interfaith Outreach dinner.

There was a lot of energy in the room that night and discussion centered on HFH GLA's Interfaith Building Initiative which is successfully bringing different faith and spiritual traditions together to build and rehabilitate homes, as well as advocate for affordable housing. Faith leaders in attendance also emphasized the importance of setting aside differences in order to build hope, lives and communities in partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

The Interfaith Outreach Dinner is a great example of how HFH GLA's interfaith community is evolving in partnership with Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) and alongside Habitat affiliates in New York, Atlanta, Grand Rapids, Denver and Seattle.

Individuals and congregations interested in getting involved with HFH GLA's Interfaith Building Initiative should contact Chris Untiet, HFH GLA Faith Relations Manager, at [chrisu@habitatla.org](mailto:chrisu@habitatla.org).

## Meet SOPHIE WILDER Future Power Woman



*By Kirstin Wilder, VP/Managing Editor of Variety & Power Woman Power Tools volunteer*

As managing editor of Variety I get many invitations to industry events, but my favorite of the year is the one I receive annually from HFH GLA for the organization's "Power Women Power Tools" build event. This year I brought along my two daughters, ages 6 and 7, to participate in the kids program that runs simultaneously.

At lunch, my girls were sitting beside me eating and listening distractedly to the program when a single mother

who had recently moved into her new home took the stage with three of her five children. She spoke about the process and what a Habitat home had meant to them.

During the course of her talk, one daughter knocked over her drink, so I tended to that. Then she complained that she didn't like the chicken and wanted the beef, so I went back to the buffet to appease her and keep her quiet. The other one had to go "potty" so I stepped out to help her. I put crayons in front of the first to keep her occupied. They both hit the dessert table three times. Truthfully, I knew I hadn't heard much of the lunch program and was certain my children hadn't either.

However, an interesting thing happened at bedtime that night. When I tucked in my 6-year-old and asked her to say her prayers this is what I overheard, "Dear God, thank you for Habitat and the houses they build. We just praise you for the family that got a house and that they didn't give up hope when they were told no they couldn't have a house. We are so grateful that the children now have a home of their own and a yard to play in. Please continue to bless Habitat so they can build more homes and help more people. Oh Jesus, we know you answer our prayers and we thank you for answering theirs..." And she went on like this for about 2 minutes reciting the lady's entire story from the lunch program.

I was stunned. How is a 6-year-old praying like our pastor? How had she heard all of this while eating, spilling her drink, coloring and getting up to get cookies three times? I do not have the answers other than to reiterate that God works in wonderful and mysterious ways.

*To read more stories like Kirstin's, visit our Building A Greater Los Angeles blog, [www.buildingagreaterla.blogspot.com](http://www.buildingagreaterla.blogspot.com). We are also always looking for guest bloggers, so if you have a Habitat story to tell please email Ali Mullin, Entertainment, Marketing and Communications Coordinator at [amullin@habitatla.org](mailto:amullin@habitatla.org).*

## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

## Meet DAVID GARDNER HFH GLA Volunteer



David started volunteering with HFH GLA in 2005. He came to a build day with his employer at the time, TRW, and then weeks later with Rolling Hills United Methodist Church. Eight years later, David is still volunteering with us on a weekly basis, helping to keep our construction warehouse in order and occasionally working out on the construction sites. He is a key reason that our construction materials are organized and accounted for.

David is a great volunteer and we are lucky he has stayed so committed to our organization. He recalls that on his first visit he painted and cleaned the brushes so well that they were cleaner than when they started that morning. The crew leader that day invited him back any time and he took her advice. We are so grateful that David did, as he has now been with our organization through major events such as the Jimmy Carter Work Project, Habitat for Heroes and many Hollywood Build-a-Thons.

David has learned a lot of great skills from working with HFH GLA. He says,

*"While any guy thinks he can hammer, I really learned how to here."*

## 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.

## OUR MISSION:

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.

## OUR CORE VALUES:

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

DIVERSITY  
EFFICIENCY  
FAITH-BASED  
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE  
INTEGRITY  
INNOVATION  
LEADERSHIP  
PARTNERSHIP  
SUSTAINABILITY

## CARS FOR HOMES

Donate your vehicle to help build homes!  
Call 1-877-277-4344 or visit [www.carsforhomes.org](http://www.carsforhomes.org)



Nice car.

FIND IT. BUY IT  
**DIY IT!**

ReStore Do-It-Yourself Workshops

### DIY Workshops at the ReStore

Do-it-yourselfers are now flocking to the ReStores for ideas as well as reasonably priced items to transform! In July, the Norwalk ReStore launched a series of interactive and engaging DIY workshops that have been taking place monthly and covering a range of topics.

Follow HFH GLA on Facebook and Twitter to find out about the next DIY workshop or call 424-246-3637 for more information.



**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.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

[www.shophabitat.org](http://www.shophabitat.org)





## WEBSITE:

[www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org)



## HFH GLA BLOG:

[www.buildingagreaterla.blogspot.com/](http://www.buildingagreaterla.blogspot.com/)



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## HABITAT INSIDER

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and learn how you can become an **ADVOCATE** for our families in your own community.

**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 Habitat Movement call or visit us:

310-323-HOME(4663) | [www.habitatla.org](http://www.habitatla.org)



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