



HOMEPAGE

Greater Muncie, Indiana

SUMMER 2016

Habitat
for Humanity®

Coalition Work Becomes Transformative

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promote a vibrant, authentic, diverse, friendly community that is safe, family-oriented, and that provides opportunities for youth and adults to pursue their dreams. The Coalition's name identifies the focus area for these efforts - 8th Street to the north, and Memorial (or 12th Street to the residents) in the south.

The 8 Twelve Coalition plan focuses on 4 main areas: beautification, services, housing, and business development and employment. Led by residents, the coalition is supported by numerous organizations including: Ross Community Center, Muncie Mission, Urban Light CDC, Inspire Academy, Southview Elementary, PathStone Corporation, and ecoRehab, to name just a few.

Thanks to a big boost from Lowe's Corporation, Vectren

Foundation, and Ball Brothers Foundation, over \$120,000 will be invested in the fulfillment of the Coalition's quality of life plan for projects in the first year alone! Community gardens and orchards will be built, homes will be boarded up and/or rehabilitated, trees will be planted, and a small mowing business focused upon youth training and development will be implemented, among numerous other projects.

Improving the quality of life in a neighborhood will be slow, but has huge potential to be transformative and long-lasting. Muncie Habitat is thrilled to have found excellent partners, supporters, residents and friends to join in this work!

Muncie Habitat is taking a more holistic approach to our house building work by focusing more upon neighborhoods. As we know, homes and families are great, but it's the neighbors and the neighborhood surrounding it that makes it fantastic.

As a part of an effort called Neighborhood Revitalization, Muncie Habitat has selected a focus area to begin resident engagement and quality of life efforts. Thanks to a grant from the Vectren Foundation, in the fall of 2015 community residents were engaged in asset mapping and coalition building exercises. From these transformative meetings, the 8 Twelve Coalition was formed. This Coalition is comprised of both residents and organizations who desire to come together to inspire each other to

Lindsey Arthur



Dream Builders Society

We see hope
IN NEIGHBORHOODS

2016 ANNUAL BREAKFAST



DreamBuilders Society Annual Breakfast 2016

Muncie Habitat's 2016 DreamBuilders Society annual breakfast event was held on Thursday, April 28th, at the Horizon Convention Center. Six hundred and twenty guests were in attendance.

Jena Ashby, Program Director, acknowledged Habitat's anniversaries this year – 40th for the International organization and 30th for Muncie Habitat.

Jena also recognized two families who had recently paid off their mortgages.

Lindsey Arthur, CEO, provided background and a summary of Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization program and explained that the emphasis locally would be on the residents who live in the target neighborhood and their involvement in the revitalization efforts. Lindsey shared, "Building homes is noble work- and very needed, but assisting residents to positively impact their neighborhood is transformative!"

Claudia Sursa, board member, emphasized the power of partnerships in Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization work - residents, families, donors, volunteers, nonprofits, churches, the City of Muncie, businesses and organizations.



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Refresh Muncie



Navient Gives Back

Local Navient employees committed to focus their philanthropic giving to Muncie Habitat for Humanity for 2016. Last December, Muncie Habitat for Humanity Board and Staff Members were presented with a check for \$48,252.38. This check represents the commitment made by Navient employees.

In honor of the philanthropic commitment of Navient employees nationwide, the company offers up to four hours of paid leave time per month to empower employees to volunteer for a Navient-supported program in their community.

Throughout 2016, Navient employees have already volunteered by rehabilitating homes, preparing donated products for sale at the ReStore, assisting customers shopping at the ReStore, and assembling the Habitat annual report.

Later this year, volunteers will complete the majority of a home rehabilitation which will be sponsored by Navient. In addition, wall panels for a new construction project will be assembled by employees in the Navient parking lot, and a team of women will participate during Women Build in the fall.

Daniel Vipperman, Vice President of Navient, says,

“Partnering with Habitat locally gives our staff the opportunity to engage philanthropically in a meaningful, hands-on way that is relational and not just transactional.”



Gifts from January 1 - May 31, 2016

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Thank you!

Tributes from January 1 - May 31, 2016

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- In Memory of Joe Clairday*.....Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bonnell
- In Memory of Bob Fuller*.....Anonymous
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- In Memory of Phyllis Nelson*.....John and Mary Jo Sgro
- In Honor of Joel and Andrea Replogle*.....Mr. and Mrs. James Replogle
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LOWE'S PARTNERS WITH HABITAT

Lowe's and Habitat for Humanity's partnership is being expressed in many ways locally this year! A national partner since 2003, Lowe's has committed more than \$63 million to Habitat for Humanity and has helped more than 5,500 families improve their living conditions across the country.

Store Fundraising Campaign

To build on the deep foundation of our Lowe's partnership, the first Lowe's store fundraising campaign to support Habitat for Humanity took place April 28 - May 31, 2016. Muncie Habitat for Humanity was one of 95 affiliates to participate in this first year program in 10 Lowe's markets. In these ten markets, selected by Lowe's, shoppers were asked if they would like to donate \$1/\$5/\$20 to Habitat for Humanity upon check-out.

Neighborhood Revitalization Grant & Lowe's Heroes

Lowe's awarded \$1.5 million in grants to 19 Habitat for Humanity organizations across the country to support more than 400 community projects as part of Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization program, an effort to serve more families through community development partnerships.

Locally, Muncie Habitat received a \$70,000 award to support the neighborhood revitalization efforts the 8 Twelve Coalition has sparked. This award will be invested in the target area in 2016.

In addition to the grant, Lowe's Heroes employee volunteers will be among more than 50 volunteers to join forces with Muncie Habitat for Humanity on July 22 & 23, 2016 to work alongside residents in the neighborhood revitalization area.

Women Build

As the underwriter of Habitat's Women Build® program since 2004, Lowe's has brought women from all walks of life together to support the nationwide initiative that challenges women to devote at least one day to help eliminate poverty housing. Lowe's how-to clinics have put hammers in the hands of thousands of women, teaching them construction skills and empowering them to be part of the solution by building homes with partner families.

In September and October, Women Build volunteers will build a new construction home in the 8 Twelve Coalition area at the corner of 9th and Elm Streets. Twelve teams, each consisting of 15 women, will help to raise a portion of the funds for the house, and will volunteer one day alongside Clarence & Dawn Alexander to build their new home. Brenda Tharpe, Store Manager of Muncie Lowe's, will lead one of these Women Build teams.



Volunteer Opportunities

Construction sites:

- CARDS Crew (Tuesdays/Thursday)
- Friday/Saturday Crews
- Provide lunches for volunteer crews (Fridays/Saturdays)

Office:

- Mailings and special projects

ReStore:

- Donation pickups; clean/prepare items for sale in ReStore

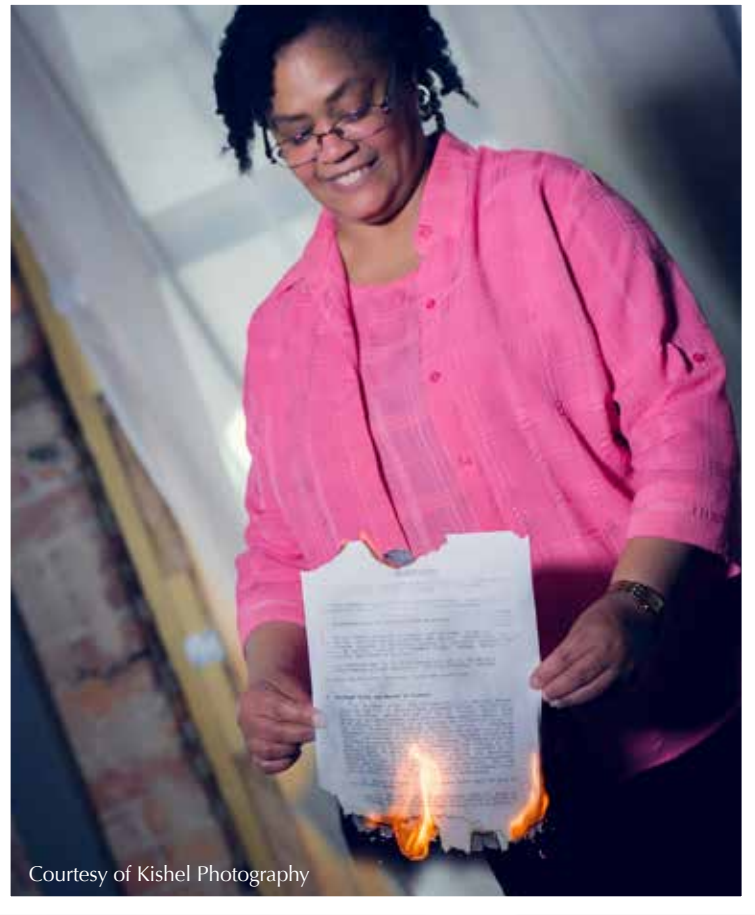
Contact Diann at dwellman@munciehabitat.org to volunteer.

Paid in Full!

Sara Jones-Miller has worked at IU Health for the last 24 years. Sara walked in to MutualBank in March of this year to make her mortgage payment on the home she purchased 20 years ago from Muncie Habitat for Humanity. She knew she was getting close to paying off her mortgage, but she remembers feeling stunned when the bank employee told her that she didn't owe anything. Sara Jones-Miller indeed had paid off her mortgage in full! Sara could not resist calling both her mother and her daughter to share the good news as she left the bank. They had both been there the day she took the keys to her new home back in May of 1996. She remembered that day – so many people came – they were able to join hands and encircle the entire house as her Pastor prayed over her new home.

Congratulations Sara - we are so proud of your accomplishment!

Habitat for Humanity has a tradition of 'mortgage burnings' to celebrate the fulfillment of a family's mortgage commitment.



Courtesy of Kishel Photography

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