



CENTRAL WESTMORELAND HABITAT HAPPENINGS

A publication of the Central Westmoreland
Habitat for Humanity Affiliate
www.centralwestmorelandhfh.org

HOLIDAY 2004

*Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious.
- I Peter 2:6*

Affiliate named a cornerstone in Habitat housing partnership

Central Westmoreland Habitat for Humanity has been designated a Cornerstone affiliate by Habitat for Humanity International's Northeast Region. In making this distinction, Habitat Northeast has restructured its operations in order to provide the appropriate level of support to its chapters.

Habitat Northeast named its affiliates Capacity Building Partners or Cornerstone affiliates based on statistical data analysis and staff members' knowledge of affiliates and their histories,

Cornerstone partners build at a slower rate than Capacity partners because of the market conditions where the affiliates are formed. Habitat Northeast has committed to working with CWHFH as the affiliate serves those in need of safe, decent affordable housing.

President - Ed Ford
Vice President - Mike Stramiello
Treasurer - Martha Telford
Secretary - Joann Bauer
Corresponding Secretary -
Debbie Kelly

Board of Directors:
Dave Bayless
Lawrence "Buzz" Blackburn
Mike DeFelice
John Duff
Jan Grant
Les Grotzinger
Ray Hartland
William Herring, Jr.
Robin Jennings
George "Skip" Neilson
Angie Seyler
Rev. Gene Stuckey
Judy Sturdevant

Central Westmoreland Habitat serves Unity, Hempfield, Mt. Pleasant, Penn and North Huntingdon townships, the cities of Greensburg (including South and Southwest), Latrobe and Jeannette; Irwin, Penn and Youngwood boroughs, and the communities of Adamsburg, Arona, Hunker, New Stanton and Manor.

When making a contribution, please make your check payable to:

**Central Westmoreland
Habitat for Humanity.**

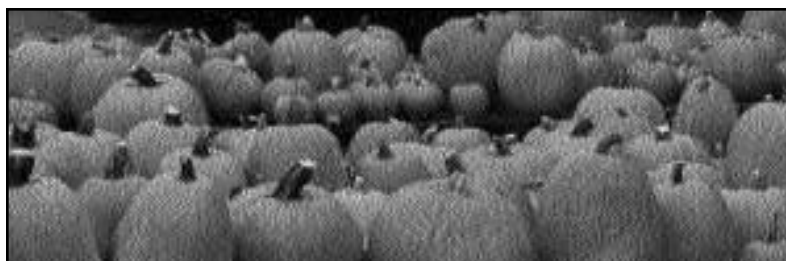
YOUR GIFT IS
100 PERCENT
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.

CWHFH, P.O. Box 516,
Greensburg, Pa. 15601-0516
724-523-0308



Pumpkin Patch Sale Big Success

Our first pumpkin patch fund raiser was a huge success, raising more than \$6,000 for the affiliate! Thanks to all those who staffed the patch or purchased produce during the Harvest season. So outstanding was this first effort, CWHFH is in the running for a prize from the pumpkin vendor for inaugural year proceeds. Look for us again in 2005.



Building Houses Not Only Way To Help

Habitat for Humanity's success is rooted in the support of partners who recognize the importance of decent shelter and who help build it in partnership with those in need. Here are a few ways in which people can act in faith and extend their involvement and leave a positive impact on the lives of families everywhere.

Believe

*"We live by faith, not by sight."
- II Corinthians 5:7*

Considering the scope of poverty housing, one might think his or her efforts are insignificant. However, all around the world, thousands of volunteers make a difference every day by refusing to accept substandard housing as part of their communities. As Habitat founder Millard Fuller wrote in his book, "No More Shacks!," "We have the know-how in the world to house everyone. We have the resources in the world to house everyone. All that's missing is the will to do it."

Believe that the problem has a solution.

Pray

*"Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way."
- Hebrews 13:18*

The needs and opportunities surrounding Habitat's work are varied. Please pray for:

- Safety for homeowners, habitat volunteers in areas of civil instability.
- Sufficient resources to build to the organization's capacity and wisdom in being good stewards of those resources.
- Increased awareness among the public of the need for decent, affordable housing.
- Security of income for Habitat homeowners.
- Habitat's capacity as an instrument of reconciliation in areas of religious conflict.
- Strength and endurance for those still trapped in substandard housing.

Build

"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go I wish you well; keep warm and well fed' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

- James 2:15-17

Building means more than construction work. Here are some other ways to help:

- Serve as a local liaison between your church or company and our affiliate, coordinating volunteers, recruiting supporters and communicating needs and progress.
- Help select families to partner with Habitat.
- Scout for potential building sites.
- Organize a group to provide Saturday lunch for our volunteer workers.

Donate

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

- Matthew 6:19-21

Financial support of Habitat's ministry increases our affiliate's capacity to build by purchasing building materi-

als. You can donate by using the envelope included in this newsletter.

However, donations are not limited to monetary gifts. Professional services like excavation, plastering, plumbing and electrical work are needed as well. Also donations of building materials and tools can free funds for other purchases.

Teach

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable persons who will also be qualified to teach others"

- Timothy 2:2

From sharing new carpentry skills to helping a homeowner develop a budget, teaching is an essential part of Habitat's success.

■ Raise awareness of housing issues in our area by talking about them in church, by writing letters to our local newspapers, and by sharing your concerns with our elected representatives. Encourage schools to teach students about the importance of volunteering.

■ Foster a volunteer spirit with your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews and any other young people with whom you come in contact and lead by example.

Thank you so very much for all you do to help in this wonderful housing ministry.

**Ed Ford,
President**

Searching For The Perfect Gift?

With the holiday upon us, why not consider giving your friends and loved ones a gift that keeps on giving: A Gift From the Heart! Your tax-deductible donation to Habitat for Humanity will be a unique and heart-warming gift offered in honor or in memory of someone you love. The building materials, supplies and support your gift provides will make the dream of a decent, affordable home possible for a family in need. You will find an envelope included in this newsletter in which to return your gift. We thank you for giving so selflessly this season.



The Board of Directors appointed Paul Leonard as the interim chief executive officer of Habitat for Humanity International. Paul has served as the organization's managing director since June. This action was prompted by Millard Fuller's decision to give up his role as CEO, a role he has performed remarkably since the organization's founding 28 years ago. David Williams will continue as chief operating officer.

An international search will be undertaken immediately for a permanent CEO to replace Paul Leonard when he steps down from the position no later than June 2006. If a successor is named before then, Paul and the board will facilitate a more timely transition.

**- Rey Ramsey
HFH International Board Chair**

I join Rey in announcing these changes and to tell you that I enthusiastically support these actions. The Board of Directors and I have great confidence in Paul Leonard. I know Paul will serve to the very best of his ability. Paul Leonard is a fine man, very talented and deeply dedicated to the Habitat ministry. He has my full support.

I have been privileged to serve as the CEO of Habitat for Humanity International from the very beginning. Now as I approach my 70th birthday, it is time for me to assume a new role, and I do so gladly.

My desire is to see Habitat for Humanity increasingly become the conscience of the world about shelter, relentlessly pursuing the goal of providing a good and decent place to live for every person on earth. And, I want to see this ministry remain faithful to our Christian roots and to the spirit of our birthplace at Koinonia Farm. I believe Paul Leonard, working harmoniously together with the board, staff and volunteers in Americus and the entire Habitat family around the world, can be and will be faithful to both of these ideals.

Pray for God to guide all of us as we seek to be faithful to His wonderful calling in this continuing venture of hammering, sawing and measuring out God's love all over the world.

- Millard Fuller



Millard Fuller

Practical Religion

...A message from our founder

What is the essence of Habitat for Humanity? What is it about Habitat that has caused the ministry to spread around the world so rapidly since its work began in 1976? Why have the concepts of house and community building resonated in the hearts of so many people?

I believe the essence of Habitat for Humanity lies at the very heart of God. The core principles and practices of Habitat flow from the life and teachings of Jesus.

We read throughout the pages of the Bible that we should love God and our neighbors, especially our neighbors in need. We read specifically in the 25th chapter of Matthew that we should "invite strangers in."

We are admonished to "let our light shine" and to be "salt" in the world. In other words, the expression of our religious faith should make a difference.

"Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

- 1 Peter 4: 9-10

This scripture from 1 Peter clearly says that we should minister to one another with whatever gifts we have received from God. Habitat for Humanity gives people an opportunity to put spiritual principles into practice in a very practical way.

It must be obvious to most people that decent housing is essential for any family. Children flourish if they are in a loving environment and have a good place to live. A house is to a family what soil is to a plant. It is a place to be rooted. A house is literally, the foundation stone on which human development occurs.

People also know from personal experience what having an adequate place in which to live means to them and their family.

Habitat for Humanity's program enables people, churches, companies and other groups to come together to build houses.

The work is very much "hands on" and grassroots. Volunteers from all walks of life work alongside soon-to-be Habitat homeowners to build house. Friendships develop. Bonding takes place. Emotional attachments emerge. Understanding results. Tears flow. Hearts are touched. God's love is made visible.

A house is finished. A family moves in amidst great rejoicing. Payments are made on a no-profit, no-interest mortgage. House payments go into a revolving fund to build more houses. A tithe raised locally helps build houses in another country. Habitat's whole approach is holistic, idealistic and realistic. It brings people together and directs them to god and to God love. The idea makes sense. It is practical religion and people can't wait to do it again. This is the essence of Habitat for Humanity

- Millard Fuller

Central Westmoreland Habitat for Humanity
P.O. Box 516
Greensburg, PA 15601-0516
www.centralwestmorelandhfh.org

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No 169
Greensburg, PA
15601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Put Habitat
on Your Gift List
This Season...
And Give From
The Heart!

MISSION

"Central Westmoreland Habitat for Humanity, an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, uses volunteer and community labor in partnership with selected families to build decent, affordable housing."

VISION

"Central Westmoreland Habitat for Humanity will become synonymous with decent, affordable housing in our service area."

