



News From: Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County
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**Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County Hosts
19th Annual Celebration of Trees Gala**
*City of St. Charles Mayor Dan Borgmeyer to serve as first honorary chairman
of event that showcases efforts, raises funds for local Habitat chapter*

ST. PETERS, Mo. (Oct. 16, 2019) – Habitat for Humanity of St Charles County’s Celebration of Trees Gala, a county-wide tradition for 19 years, is slated for Saturday, Nov. 9, at 6 p.m., at Ameristar Casino Ballroom in St. Charles, Mo.

Dan Borgmeyer, mayor of the City of St. Charles, will serve as the event’s first honorary chairman to kick off the theme of this year’s gala, “It’s a Wonderful Life.” The event provides the opportunity for Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County to celebrate the organization’s accomplishments throughout the year and raise funds toward its continuing efforts to create quality, affordable homes where families partner, build and buy.

Tickets for the gala are \$110 each. Each ticket includes a dinner buffet and beverages. The festive evening offers:

- **The holiday auction!** Dozens of artificial holiday trees, wreaths and tree toppers, professionally decorated by local artists, interior design and decor experts, will be on display and up for the highest bid. Sponsorships of these auction items are available. Winners of a holiday tree may schedule its delivery to a home or place of business. Delivery is provided free-of-charge by Habitat staff.
- **Sponsorships, sponsorships, sponsorships!** In addition to sponsorships of auction items, sponsorships also are available for VIP tables and dinner tables. The names of sponsor companies, organizations or individuals are prominently displayed in custom signage, as well as included in the evening’s program and presentation.
- **Music & Entertainment!** Bud and Broadway from New Country 92.3, winners of the 2018 Academy of Country Music Major Market Personalities of The Year, will serve as emcees at the Gala.

Information on sponsorships, opportunities to decorate a holiday tree for auction and event reservation is available at 636-978-5712, or by visiting the Celebration of Trees Gala website at www.hfhgala.org.

All proceeds from the gala directly benefit Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County to continue its mission to bring people together to build hope, homes and communities and increase the number of families it serves in St. Charles County. “We are excited to bring this highly anticipated event to St. Charles County again this year,” said Michelle Woods, executive director, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. “With determination and compassion, our

volunteers, family partners and supporters continue to work hard to enhance lives, foster relationships and build communities one home at a time.”

About Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County

Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County builds safe, decent and affordable homes with hard-working families in St. Charles County. The nonprofit community-level affiliate acts in partnership with and on behalf of Habitat for Humanity, an international, non-governmental, nonprofit organization devoted to building strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter. Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County has built 89 homes for Habitat families since 1997, with more than 2,000 volunteers donating 14,000 hours each year.

Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County offers a ‘hand up’ opportunity that transforms lives, builds a strong foundation and forges lasting relationships with communities for a bright future. Applicants and co-applicants selected for a Habitat home agree to perform a minimum of 150 “sweat equity” hours each, for a total of at least 300 hours, in the building of their home or other Habitat projects. In collaboration with community partners, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County offers free financial coaching and skills to potential homeowners through the Homebuyer Readiness Program, in which participants learn about credit, debt, budgeting, setting goals and saving money. In addition, the organization guides homeowners through an affordable mortgage repayment process.

To help fund and support these efforts, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County operates Habitat St. Charles ReStore habitatstcharles.org/restore/ a retail outlet located at 186 Mid Rivers Center in St. Peters. ReStore, which opened in 2007, has diverted over 100,000 tons of waste from local landfills by selling donated new and used building materials, appliances, furniture and select home goods items back to the general public at fair prices. Funds raised allow Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County to be self-sustaining, with nearly 100 percent of every dollar donated going directly toward building simple, decent, affordable homes for deserving families in St. Charles County.

In addition, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County hosts the annual Frame the Future Gala as its premier fundraiser in November, a trivia night each spring and sponsors Women Build, an international effort to empower women to help families build strength, stability and independence through hands-on learning.

About Habitat for Humanity International

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat for Humanity began in 1976 as a grassroots effort on a community farm in southern Georgia. The Christian housing organization has since grown to become a leading global nonprofit working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in more than 70 countries. Families and individuals in need of a hand up partner with Habitat for Humanity to build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Through financial support, volunteering or adding a voice to support affordable housing, everyone can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves. Through shelter, we empower. To learn more, visit habitat.org

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