



News From: Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County
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Building Homes and Strengthening Communities through Homeownership *Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County holds February events*

ST. PETERS, Mo. (Jan. 11, 2021) – While many people may dream of owning a home but don't think they meet the criteria or qualifications necessary to achieve that goal, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County provides tools, resources and support for the potential path to homeownership. The nonprofit organization is accepting new homeowner applications through Feb. 28.

A homeownership informational meeting via video conference is scheduled at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26, and Tuesday, Feb. 23. The Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County Homeowner Selection Committee and Habitat St. Charles staff members will be on hand to field questions about the Homeownership program and application process. To RSVP, contact Shana Eubanks at shana@habitatstcharles.org or call 636-978-5712, extension 118.

To review qualifications for Habitat homeownership, visit habitatstcharles.org

In addition, together with community partners, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County offers free financial coaching and skills to everyone who enrolls in the Homebuyer Readiness Program. Participants learn about credit, debt, budgeting, setting goals and saving money with comprehensive workshops and one-on-one coaching.

"The cold days of winter offer the reminder that a safe, warm and comfortable home may be attainable through the Homeownership program," said Michelle Woods, executive director, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. "Through our programs, we are excited to lead our neighbors into financial independence for affordable, stable housing that supports our mission to enhance lives, foster relationships and build the community 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 300-450 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 the Habitat St. Charles ReStore <http://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 an 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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