



News From: Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County
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Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County Dedicates New Home
Ceremony marks 89th home built or remodeled as part of continuing effort to create quality, affordable homes where families partner, build and buy in St. Charles County

ST. PETERS, Mo. (July 28, 2020) – Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County dedicated a home for the Parnell family on Thursday, July 23 at 1202 Cunningham Ave. in St. Charles, Mo.

The home is the first remodeled residence, rather than a new build, by Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. As in all Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County homes, the solid structure features upgraded interior and exterior insulation and caulking, and new high-energy efficient windows. Other energy-efficient features were employed to reduce homeowners' monthly costs, including a new electric furnace and water heater, LED lighting, programmable thermostat and the recent installation of a smart meter by Ameren Missouri.

The seven-member Parnell family previously resided in a two-bedroom apartment. The newly refurbished 1,100-square-foot Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County home and large yard provide ample space for the growing family. As with other families who work hard to qualify for a Habitat home, the Parnell family completed 300 sweat-equity hours toward the purchase of the home and will pay an affordable mortgage.

"Our Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County homeowners work diligently to go through a rigorous homeowner process to realize their dreams of having a healthy home, safe and free from environmental or physical hazards," said Michelle Woods, executive director, Habitat for Humanity of St. Charles County. "It's rewarding that individuals, teams and companies come together to participate and support our mission to enhance lives, foster relationships and build or improve our 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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