



coming home

The Newsletter of Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity

PIKESPEAKHABITAT.ORG

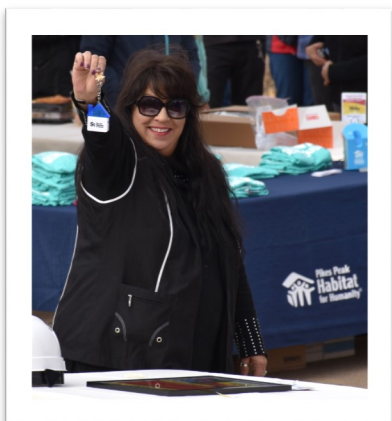
SPRING 2019

Finally Home The light at the end of the tunnel

Twelve months and 200 hours of sweat equity later, Penny and her five adopted nieces and nephews are finally *home*. Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity, along with Penny and her family, welcomed more than 100 volunteers, supporters, and community members to her new Habitat home on January 12, 2019. As staff from Rocky Mountain Region of Thrivent Financial, the generous sponsor of Penny's home, together with volunteers from several other churches across El Paso County, and board members of Pikes Peak Habitat commemorated the culmination of hard work and dedication involved in helping Penny build her family's forever home.

Every Habitat homeowner has a need for safe, stable, affordable housing. The rigorous journey from applying to become a future Habitat homeowner, to accepting the keys to their finished forever home, begins when they walk through our office doors. Yet each homeowner's story is a lifetime in the making.

We are very excited to partner once again with Thrivent Financial, as the 2019 Habitat and Thrivent Faith Build gets underway.



Penny's Home Dedication, 2019.

A Volunteer's Legacy 26 Years of Building Hope

Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity (PPHFH) is excited to begin our first *George Hammond Build* this month! George Hammond is our longest serving volunteer with the Pikes Peak affiliate. He has been a volunteer with PPFH since 1993, giving 26 years of service to this affiliate and the families of El Paso County. George was originally going to volunteer with another local area nonprofit, until a friend from his church, who had been working for Habitat at the time, suggested George give volunteering on the construction site a chance. So, in January 1993 we gained one of the most dedicated, kind, and impactful volunteers in our affiliate's history.

When asked what inspires him to continue to volunteer every week, George contributed his dedication in the service of others to being a Boy Scout. He grew up knowing the importance of helping God's people in need. PPFH is a Christian organization and George identified with our mission: "Seeking to put God's love into action, Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope."

Continued on page 2.

In this issue...

- Pg. 1 Finally Home
- Pg. 2 George Hammond Award
- Pg. 3 At Home With Habitat
- Pg. 3 Tithe
- Pg. 6 Landslide Homes
- Pg. 7 Women Build
- Pg. 8 Save the Date



George Hammond and Don Harris at Keller Family Home.

George has witnessed the growth of PPHFH over the past 26 years. He was here when this affiliate was completely operated by volunteers. The business office was being operated out of a church basement, and volunteers would bring their own tools to the construction sites. George has held a variety of positions with our affiliate throughout the years. He has been the construction superintendent, the chairman of the Building Committee, and a spokesman for Habitat for Humanity.

George has worked on every house this affiliate has built except one. The next house he will help build will be the first *George Hammond Build* in honor of George Hammond. Every year to come, there is an opportunity for staff and volunteers to nominate a person meeting the criteria for the George Hammond Award, which was created to honor those volunteers who, through their tireless service to PPHFH, have exhibited qualities of leadership, an unwavering belief in Habitat's ministry, as well as demonstrating a

A Volunteer's Legacy

26 Years of Building Hope

"I have always enjoyed volunteering and helping others."

deep devotion and passion to serve the community and people of El Paso County. It is such a special award that it will not automatically be awarded annually. When someone receives this award, another *George Hammond Build* house will be dedicated in his or her honor.

When asked how he feels about the creation of the George Hammond Award, George said "I am very humbled and it is a distinct honor. There are no words to express my excitement."

The *George Hammond Build* will be taking place the entire month of



Regular Volunteer, George Hammond, working at the Country Living site in Fountain, CO.

April. If you are interested in donating service, funds, or your time volunteering please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Sarah Buchen, at 719.290.1969.

At Home with Habitat

There was a sense of pride in the air February 27th as Habitat staff, volunteers, friends, and family members joined future homeowner Danyale in blessing the site of her family's future home. The ceremony marked the commencement of the construction of her home. It was not

only a time to break ground, but also a time to pause and offer thanks to God who provides all things. Taking this time to pause and honor the staff, volunteers, donors, and the future homeowner sets a positive tone for the build, encouraging all to give what they can so that their neigh-

15:5. *He [God] took him [Abram] outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."* We are all offered the opportunity to be part of this inheritance – to be counted among the "stars". Ms. Medina recognized Danyale

as a bright "star." Through her work at the Habitat ReStore, Danyale has served approximately 78,000 customers.

It is a blessing to add another family to the Country Living neighborhood, especially a family who is already a beloved member of the Habitat family.

bors can realize the American dream – homeownership.

PPHFH Executive Director/ CEO Kris Medina opened the ceremony by referencing a passage of scripture from Genesis

"I feel so blessed to not only be a [future homeowner] but...a part of a company who constantly wants to help others."



Danyale and her four children.



Traditional Nepalese housing.

Habitat for Humanity

A Global Organization with Local Impact

We are all called to minister to one another; however, we don't always recognize the call, because sometimes it is but a whisper and it is lost in the noise of our jam-packed lives. Sometimes the call is so loud and overwhelming we feel unable to act. One such call to serve is through Habitat's vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Pretty big call, isn't it! Did

you know you are answering it?

We often hear or see news broadcasts about people living in unsanitary, overcrowded, disaster-torn communities. - Communities where children miss school because they must walk considerable distances to get water and bring it to the home or because they daily

Continued on page 4.



Children in Nepal playing outside.

HABITAT VISION

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

have to decide whether to risk those paths to school that are mazes of dangerous natural or man-made conditions. Communities of homes made from tarps, cardboard boxes or shells of abandoned buildings where the floor is muddy and unsanitary and there is no sanctuary from heat or cold or monsoon rains and hurricane winds. Communities where babies learn to crawl then walk barefoot and their feet become infected because of the insect bites and the bacteria from the dirt flooring. Many of those

children do not survive to adulthood because of preventable mental and physical health and safety issues caused by or symptomatic of their housing conditions. Parents who are displaced because land rights do not exist and their homes are stripped from them without recourse.

PPHFH addresses these global issues through participating in the HFH-International Tithe Program. We tithe a portion of your unrestricted donations and ReStore sales to Habitat affiliates in Nepal,

Tajikistan and to the Orphans and Vulnerable Populations Fund. These funds provide direct service to those in need of decent affordable housing, including clean water, microfinancing loans to build or improve existing homes and to support enforceable and secure land rights for vulnerable populations such as orphans and widows.

At Habitat for Humanity, we have the unmatched ability to address so many of society's needs by creating decent affordable permanent affordable housing.

Driven by the vision that everyone needs a decent place to live, Habitat International has partnered with families and other organizations across the globe for more than 40 years to build and improve shelter. Our international work focuses on increasing access to homeownership and housing finance, improving housing affordability and quality, helping communities prepare for and respond to natural disasters, building strong and resilient neighborhoods, and providing shelter and support services to the most vulnerable.

Your unrestricted donations and ReStore purchases are supporting this meaningful and impactful work without undermining our local work in El Paso County. Homes in these countries costs approximately \$4500 each, in comparison to our volunteer-built homes of \$150,000 in El Paso County.

Thank you for hearing the whisper and answering the call to serve our families in El Paso County and beyond our borders. We are all God's children and we all deserve a decent place to live.



Volunteers laying brick housing in Uganda.

2018 – Behind the Numbers

- 18 families assisted.
- \$83,378 dedicated to families in Nepal and Tajikistan.
- Continued yearly support in the event of unforeseen disasters—volcano, tsunami, etc.
- 1987-2018, PPHFH has contributed \$774,641 to helping 194 families in Central and South Asia, as well as the Orphans and Vulnerable Groups.

YOUR *Spring Cleaning* PARTNER

PAGE 5



We don't clean houses, but we do take donations!

Every donation to the ReStore directly supports the Habitat mission— to build homes, communities, and hope.

411 South Wahsatch Avenue
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
719.667.0841
donations@pikespeakhabitat.org
pikespeakhabitat.org/restore

Please visit <https://pikespeakhabitat.org/restore/> for a list of items that can be donated to the ReStore.



Thanks to a grant from Colorado Technical University, Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity homeowners, employees, and their eligible family members, may be eligible to receive a 25% tuition grant towards a college education at Colorado Technical University (CTU). To learn more visit our website: pikespeakhabitat.org/ctu.



Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity appreciates the generous support of G.E. Johnson Construction Company for sponsoring Habitat's annual *Volunteer Appreciation Event*. G.E. Johnson also very kindly supported this event in 2018.

Rebuilding Hope

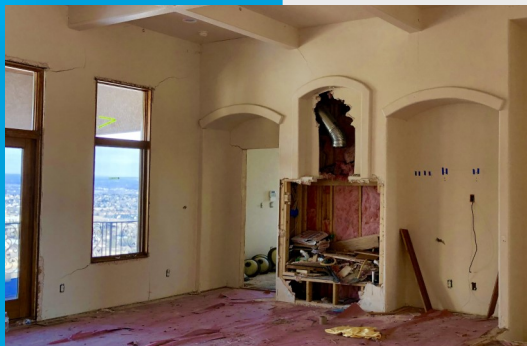
Landslide Houses Help Build Future Habitat Homes



Growing cracks in the walls from the shifting foundation.



Cabinets and piping to be recycled.



Remnants of a family living room.

Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity ReStore is partnering with the City of Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management in the deconstruction of several homes in the Broadmoor Bluffs community of Colorado Springs.

Now, almost three years

after these homes were declared disaster sites by FEMA, the dozen homes on the federal buyout list are being sold and the families are moving.

Some of the homeowners affected had been in their home since the 1990s. "It started with small cracks," one homeowner

said in a 2016 interview; they were not aware of the history of the area, nor that the land was never an ideal option for construction.

In hopes of seeing some positive impact from this tragic situation, PPHFH volunteers will salvage as much construction

"It started with small cracks..."

material as possible, before the homes are completely demolished. Not only will this prevent more materials ending up in our landfills, many of the extracted materials will be resold at the ReStore to benefit

the mission of PPHFH. Each volunteer hour used to remove, load, sort and price the aforementioned materials will be tracked in order to reimburse the homeowners. The sale of their home will most likely not

be close to market value, so as many hours as we can record toward these projects will be greatly appreciated. You can volunteer on this monumental project by contacting Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Buchen at 719.290.1969.

By The Numbers

- Two home deconstructions already completed, 3rd deconstruction to be finished mid-March.
- 550 volunteer hours tracked to date.
- \$15,000 in grant money back to affected owners of landslide homes.

A Letter from the Board President



PPHFH Board President,
David Warner.

As you know, PPHFH provides a hand up, not a hand out, to qualified families in El Paso County. I can say it is a privilege and my passion to volunteer my time, skills, and talents to PPHFH, having been involved in various positions for the past 13 years. Enough about me, let's talk about you!

It is because of individuals like you that we are able to accomplish our mission of providing decent, affordable homes for deserving families. Partnering with PPHFH changes the lives of these families for the better. With homeownership comes responsibility, education, self-sufficiency, and a permanent way to improve their family, as well as their economic circumstances. Not only for them, but for future generations.

PPHFH has just completed its first Veteran Home Build, we are tripling the number of annual Women Build events, accomplished six various Apostles Builds, and we serve a diverse population. Right now the first George Hammond Build is underway for Danyale's family.

Who is George Hammond? Mr. Hammond is a 26 year volunteer with PPHFH, a man who has selflessly given his time, resources, and energy to his community through PPHFH for more than two decades. Although he was not looking for it, we named an award in his honor, because his accomplishments should live on long after he is no longer building Habitat homes.

Whether a volunteer, donor, or contributor to the ReStore, you share in supporting the mission of Pikes Peak Habitat.

God bless you.



Volunteer working on
construction site.

Women Building Tomorrow

March is host to International Women's Day, a global celebration highlighting the rise of women's rights and the value of their contributions to family, home, and community.

2019 is seeing the expansion of our Women Build! Instead of the traditional single Women Build, 2019 will have **three** Women Build projects—

May 9-11, August 8-10, and November 7-9.

Visit us online to register as a volunteer for one or all three of the Women Build projects!

More information can be found at pikespeakhabitat.org/volunteer or by emailing our Volunteer Coordinator:

volunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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A partner agency of



Save the date

Women Build 2019

May 9—11

Contact our Volunteer Coordinator to register for
one of our three Women Build projects!

volunteer@pikespeakhabitat.org
pikespeakhabitat.org/volunteer

Mission

Seeking to put God's love into action,
Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity brings people together
to build homes, communities and hope.