

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Release**

**Media Contact:**

Laura Williams-Parrish, Community Relations Manager  
Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity  
Office: 719.475.7800 ext. 106  
laura@pikespeakhabitat.org

## **Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity Celebrates 35 Years**

**Colorado Springs, CO** (October 28, 2021) – Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity (PPHFH) hosted an anniversary celebration at The Pinery in Colorado Springs in recognition of 35 years of building and advocating for affordable housing in El Paso County.

The evening was sponsored by GE Johnson with Corporate Citizenship Manager Stella Hodgkins on hand to open the evening's presentation and welcome guests. Also included in the evening's activities were a 35-year history of PPFH by Executive Director and CEO Kris Lewis; PPFH facts and trivia highlighted by Director of Strategic Partnerships Iain Probert; and the shared personal journey of future Habitat homeowner and single mother Brittany who, having experienced homelessness, will complete her Habitat home in December of this year for her family. In attendance were local officials, donors, and volunteers.



Above left: *Cutting the cake (L to R) are Stella Hodgkins (GE Johnson), Kris Lewis (PPHFH), and Ryan Panariso (PPHFH Board President and Community Bank President of ANB Bank).*



Above right: *Habitat future homeowner Brittany shares her story of homelessness to homeowner.*

Congratulatory videos were shown during the evening presentation and included uplifting messages from:

- Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers
- Former Fountain Mayor Gabriel Ortega
- El Paso County Commissioner Stan VanderWerf
- Habitat for Humanity of Colorado Executive Director Karen Kallenberg
- Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) CEO Jonathon Reckford
- HFHI National Director Christy Stickney on behalf of Habitat Nepal
- HFHI National Director Sény Jean-Jacques Yao on behalf of Habitat Côte d'Ivoire

*Note of interest: Habitat Nepal and Habitat Cote d'Ivoire are recipients of PPHFH tithe donations that come from 10% of undesignated donations to PPHFH, including ReStore net income. Tithe donations also currently help Orphans and Vulnerable Groups, and the Disaster Response Fund. In March 2021 HFHI awarded PPHFH the Sam Mompongo Award for tithing over \$1,000,000 (over the lifetime of PPHFH) to Habitat's worldwide efforts to sustain families by building safe and affordable housing.*

PPHFH's FY2021 Year in Review with a 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary insert was given to attendees, and a copy is attached with this media release.

#### **About Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity**

Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity builds affordable housing in El Paso County in partnership with the community and prospective homeowners. Partner families build their home alongside volunteers, and purchase their house with an affordable mortgage. PPHFH has been an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International since 1986 and has assisted 200 families in El Paso County. For more information, visit [www.pikespeakhabitat.org](http://www.pikespeakhabitat.org).

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